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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/766,295	01/19/2001	Mark Ryan	W2100/204330	9669

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EXAMINER

BAROT, BHARAT

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2155

DATE MAILED: 07/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

15

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/766,295

Applicant(s)

RYAN ET AL.

Examiner

Bharat N. Barot

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 April 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-63 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-63 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-63 are presented for examination.

Election/Restriction

2. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121 and 372:

- I. Claims 1-6 and 23-34 are drawn to a system providing weather information based on a consumers group and a geographical region, classified in network resource allocating area class 709 subclass 226.
- II. Claims 7-11 are drawn to a system providing weather information based on a consumers group and a different segment of time, classified in network resource access controlling area class 709 subclass 229.
- III. Claims 12-18 and 35-41 are drawn to a system (map section) providing weather information based on map navigation and category of weather map/information, classified in operator interface area class 715 subclasses 711-713.
- IV. Claims 19-22 and 56-63 are drawn to a system providing weather information by using navigational architecture, classified in network resource browsing or navigating area class 715 subclasses 738-739.
- V. Claims 42-55 are drawn to a system providing weather information includes controlling retrieval of the weather data from database and managing a flow of data, classified in data access control area class 715 subclasses 241-243.

Combination-Subcombination

3. Inventions (I)-(II) and (III)-(V) are related as combination and subcombination. Inventions in this relationship are distinct if it can be shown that (1) the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed for patentability, and (2) that the subcombination has utility by itself or in other combinations (MPEP § 806.05(c)).

In the instant case, the combination as claimed (Inventions (I)-(II) a system providing weather information based on a consumers group, a geographical region, and a different segment of time) does not require the particulars of the subcombination (Inventions (III)-(V)) as claimed because the Inventions (I)-(II) do not rely upon the specific details (map section, navigational architecture, and layers for controlling/ managing the weather data) of the subcombination for their patentability.

The subcombination has separate utility as described in the claims groups (III)-(V) above.

Subcombinations, Useable Together

4. Inventions (I) and (II) are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable (MPEP § 806.05(d)).

In the instant case, Invention (I) has separate utility such as a system providing weather information based on a consumers group and a geographical region; and invention (II) a system providing weather information based on a consumers group and a different segment of also has separate utility by itself or in other combinations (MPEP § 806.05(c)).

5. Inventions (III)-(V) are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable (MPEP § 806.05(d)).

In the instant case, Invention (III) has separate utility such as a system (map section) providing weather information based on map navigation and category of weather map/information; and invention (IV) a system providing weather information by using navigational architecture and (V) a system providing weather information includes controlling retrieval of the weather data from database and managing a flow of data each has separate utility by itself or in other combinations (MPEP § 806.05(c)).

Conclusion To All Restriction Requirements


6. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification and because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.
7. Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single group disclosed as described above for prosecution on the merits because each of the groups requires different search in different class and subclasses.
8. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventor ship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventor ship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(1).
9. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

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Contact Information

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Bharat Barot** whose Telephone Number is **(571) 272-3979**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM. Most facsimile-transmitted patent application related correspondence is required to be sent to the Central FAX Number **(571) 273-8300**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Saleh Najjar**, can be reached at **(571) 272-4006**.


BHARAT BAROT
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Patent Examiner Bharat Barot

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July 11, 2005